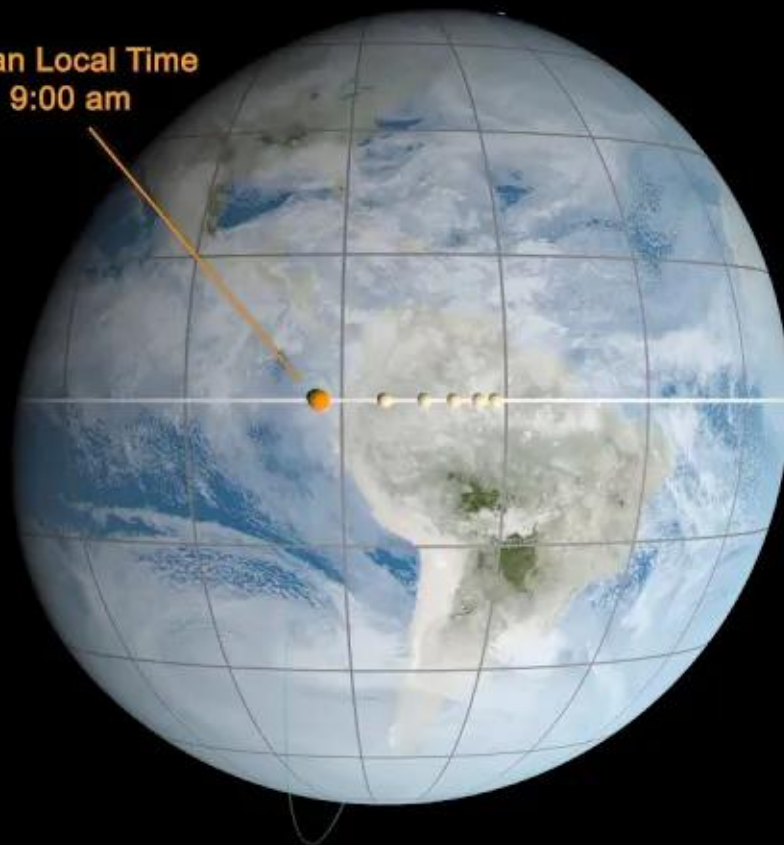




Resulting image for a 9:00 am MLT

2025

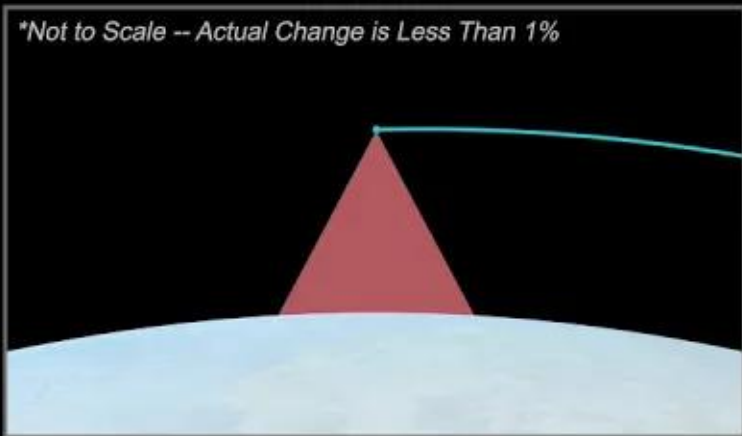
Mean Local Time  
9:00 am



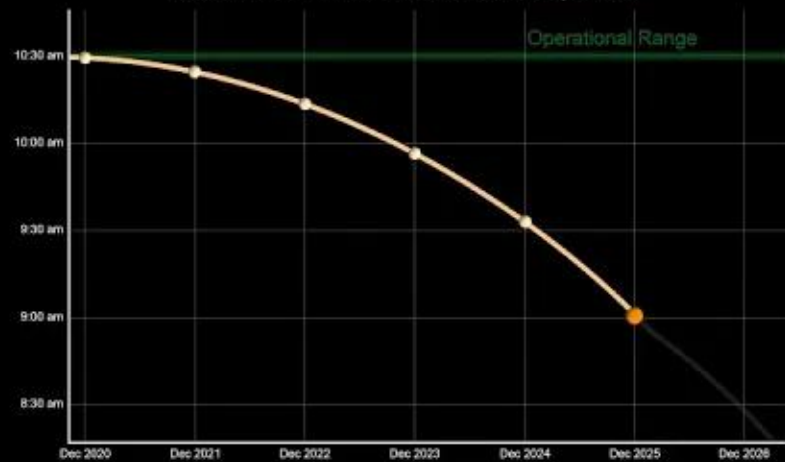
Resulting image for a 10:30 am MLT

Swath Width

\*Not to Scale -- Actual Change is Less Than 1%



Mean Local Time of the Descending Node



1  
00:00:07,349 --> 00:00:04,390  
terra has consistently orbited earth

2  
00:00:09,509 --> 00:00:07,359  
from pole to pole for over 20 years

3  
00:00:11,190 --> 00:00:09,519  
collecting important data about earth's

4  
00:00:13,749 --> 00:00:11,200  
systems

5  
00:00:14,950 --> 00:00:13,759  
crossing the equator at 10 30 am mean

6  
00:00:16,630 --> 00:00:14,960  
local time

7  
00:00:19,429 --> 00:00:16,640  
allowed tara's five instruments to

8  
00:00:21,349 --> 00:00:19,439  
collect consistent simultaneous data

9  
00:00:26,630 --> 00:00:21,359  
important to earth's systems research

10  
00:00:31,669 --> 00:00:29,429  
in 2020 terra completed its final

11  
00:00:33,830 --> 00:00:31,679  
inclination maneuver using some of its

12  
00:00:35,670 --> 00:00:33,840  
limited fuel supply to maintain that

13  
00:00:38,229 --> 00:00:35,680

crossing time

14

00:00:40,310 --> 00:00:38,239

since that final inclination maneuver

15

00:00:43,030 --> 00:00:40,320

terra has continuously drifted to an

16

00:00:45,510 --> 00:00:43,040

earlier equatorial crossing time

17

00:00:47,350 --> 00:00:45,520

by the fall of 2022

18

00:00:49,830 --> 00:00:47,360

tara's crossing time will be earlier

19

00:00:50,709 --> 00:00:49,840

than 10 15 a.m

20

00:00:53,110 --> 00:00:50,719

then

21

00:00:54,389 --> 00:00:53,120

tara will be lowered to a new orbit

22

00:00:56,389 --> 00:00:54,399

where it will be able to collect

23

00:00:57,750 --> 00:00:56,399

valuable data at an even earlier

24

00:01:02,389 --> 00:00:57,760

crossing time

25

00:01:04,950 --> 00:01:02,399

small changes will be noticeable in

26

00:01:06,789 --> 00:01:04,960

terra's data and imagery

27

00:01:09,190 --> 00:01:06,799

evidence in imagery of the earlier

28

00:01:10,950 --> 00:01:09,200

crossing time will be visible as longer

29

00:01:12,390 --> 00:01:10,960

shadows especially in mountain

30

00:01:14,550 --> 00:01:12,400

landscapes

31

00:01:22,070 --> 00:01:14,560

like these images of the grant range in

32

00:01:27,590 --> 00:01:25,190

meanwhile as terra moves closer to earth

33

00:01:29,350 --> 00:01:27,600

the sensor's views will become narrower

34

00:01:30,390 --> 00:01:29,360

leading to slightly narrower swath

35

00:01:32,230 --> 00:01:30,400

widths

36

00:01:34,710 --> 00:01:32,240

the effect will be most noticeable in

37

00:01:37,190 --> 00:01:34,720

aster imagery but each of terra's

38

00:01:39,670 --> 00:01:37,200

sensors will be affected

39

00:01:41,590 --> 00:01:39,680

however the impact on science is

40

00:01:43,830 --> 00:01:41,600

expected to be minimal

41

00:01:46,149 --> 00:01:43,840

in fact some impacts could prove

42

00:01:47,990 --> 00:01:46,159

beneficial to some areas of research

43

00:01:49,830 --> 00:01:48,000

like land morphology

44

00:01:51,749 --> 00:01:49,840

surface temperature

45

00:01:54,230 --> 00:01:51,759

and climate research

46

00:01:55,670 --> 00:01:54,240

terra's lengthy legacy of more than two

47

00:01:57,429 --> 00:01:55,680

decades of data

48

00:01:59,830 --> 00:01:57,439

will continue to contribute to